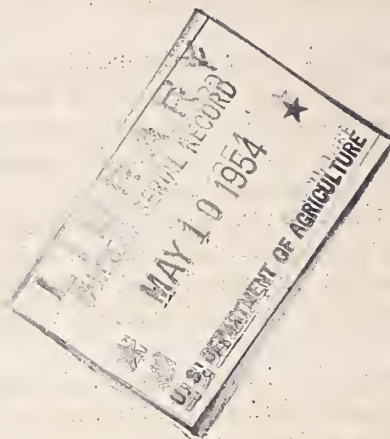


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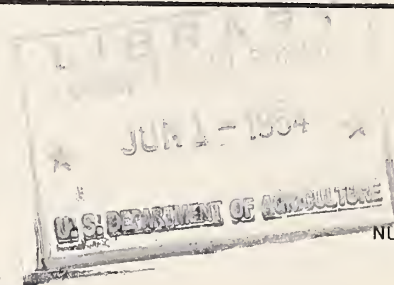


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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U.S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains.

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FRENCH WEST AFRICA REPORTS BUMPER PEANUT HARVEST

French West African peanut production during 1953-54 was the largest crop harvested since 1936 on the basis of tonnages marketed thus far, reports B. A. Stokes, American Consulate General, Dakar. The major factor resulting in the bumper crop appears to have been favorable weather conditions, but efforts to introduce selected seed and the use of fertilizers may have had some bearing on the outcome.

Estimates of total production are not yet available. Preliminary estimates of the area cultivated ran about the same as the preceding year, 3,165,000 acres, of which about one-half was in Senegal. Production in Senegal alone probably was at least 715,000 short tons of peanuts in the shell. This estimate is based on the expected marketed tonnage of around 595,000, a normal withholding of about 65,000 tons by the Societes de Preveyance (a Government agricultural organization which collects and distributes seed, encourages the use of improved agricultural techniques, grants credits, etc.), and an estimated consumption in excess of 55,000 tons. Marketings in the various territories of French West Africa as of March 28, 1954, were reported as follows in short tons:

Senegal	568,140	Guinea	6,175
Sudan	55,360	Upper-Volta	1,320
Niger	106,925	Ivory Coast	220
Dahomey	6,570		
		Total	<u>744,710</u>

Results in Sudan have not been altogether satisfactory with the crop not expected to exceed 65,000 tons (in the shell). While tonnages herein are quoted on the basis of "in the shell", all peanuts from the Sudan are shipped shelled, via the Dakar-Niger railway, in order to cut freight rates.

The crop in Niger was very good. With marketing ended, 72,750 tons of shelled nuts (106,925 tons unshelled) have been commercialized. The French Government, however, anticipates difficulties in evacuating the crop this year. Normally 6,000-11,000 tons are shipped through Dahomey and the rest by rail through British Nigeria. Some 42,000 tons of shelled peanuts had been transported through Nigeria as of March 11 and there were 460,760 tons of peanuts in storage at the Nigerian railhead of Kano in comparison with 413,360 at that time last year. Daily loadings have been around 6,170 tons against 5,180 last year.

Peanut exports during 1953 amounted to 28,479 tons of nuts in the shell and 218,986 tons shelled, virtually all to France and other French possessions. Crude peanut oil exports amounted to 99,466 tons and refined peanut oil exports to 9,402 tons. The oil also went largely to France and other French African territories.

Prices to producers were increased to 21.0 CFA francs per kilogram (5.4 cents per pound) compared with 20.5 francs (5.3 cents) paid for the 1952-53 crop. The Government justified the increase on the basis of the expected superior quality of this year's crop and on the fact that, as a result of the Government's order requiring mechanical cleaning of all peanuts at the marketing points, the buyers would have less loss due to foreign matter.

No similar price increase was awarded to the buyers. In fact, they lost a .25 franc rebate paid to them last year which, in effect, made the purchase price increase .75 CFA francs. In addition, in the middle of February all exports of peanuts were placed under license and licenses were not issued for shipments at more than 94.5 Metropolitan francs per kilogram (12.2 cents per pound) shelled, bulk, the average of the prices quoted during last year's marketing.

The growth of the Senegal peanut oil industry has been such that some trade sources now estimate that mill capacity is sufficient to process the entire Senegal peanut crop. Oil mills in Senegal are expected to produce 122,350 tons of peanut oil and 130,000 tons of oilcake from the 1953 peanut crop.

The past year also was a favorable one for other oil-bearing products of French West Africa. In general, prices were high with the result that the quantities marketed were considerably larger than in the previous year.

PARAGUAY'S VEGETABLE OIL PRODUCTION DOWN

Paraguay's production of vegetable oils from indigenous sources in 1954 is expected to total about 9,800 short tons, or substantially below the 12,300 tons produced in 1953, reports the American Embassy, Asuncion. The indicated reduction in oil output from last year is the result of expected smaller yields of tung and palm oil.

Approximately 2,400 tons of cottonseed oil will be produced this year, according to trade sources, all of which will be consumed locally. Palm kernel oil output is expected to reach 3,300 tons, or about the same as in 1953. Of this quantity, about 2,200 tons will probably be exported to Argentina and the remainder will be used locally as soapstock. A Government resolution of October 1953 prevents the further refining of palm kernel oil for human consumption. About 800 tons of palm oil will be produced and this too will be consumed by the soap industry.

Tung oil production is forecast at about 2,750 tons for 1954, representing a decrease of 28 percent from last year. The decrease in this year's crop, which is somewhat below normal, is caused by seasonal variations in the weather, according to trade sources. It is estimated that about 13,600 acres are planted in tung trees in Paraguay.

Production of refined peanut oil in 1954 is forecast at about 450 tons.

Official data regarding exports of vegetable oils in 1953 are not yet available but trade estimates indicate that about 110 tons of palm kernel oil, 2,200 tons of tung oil, and 1,100 tons of cottonseed cake were exported last year. The palm kernel oil went to Argentina and according to consular invoices 761 tons of the tung oil went to the United States. The export of refined edible oils and oilseeds from Paraguay is prohibited by law.

The Government authorized the importation of 1,650 tons of refined sunflower seed oil from Uruguay during 1953, approximately 550 tons of which arrived during the year. It is expected that the remaining 1,100 tons will be imported during 1954. In addition, 1,650 tons of refined cottonseed or sunflower seed oil will probably be imported from Argentina under the terms of the Paraguayan-Argentine Convention of Economic Union.

FRENCH MOROCCO'S FISH OIL INDUSTRY EXPANDING

The rapid expansion of French Morocco's fish by-products industry is illustrated by exports which, during 1953, consisted of 18,115 short tons of fish meal and 3,947 tons of fish body oil, as compared with but 14,814 tons of fish meal (including related products) in 1952, reports the American Consulate General, Casablanca.

A considerable increase in the industrial fish catch occurred in 1953 in the face of curtailed canned fish output. The bulk of the 50,800 tons of fish delivered to the by-products plants located at Agadir was devoted primarily to the production of fish meal and fish oil.

The fish oil industry is attempting to introduce the use of its product in the mixture of edible oils utilized in the fish-canning process, the quantity of fish oil not to exceed 20 percent of the volume of the mixture. If successful, this development would assure the fish oil industry of a significant home market. In France, however, the use of fish oils in canning processes is not legal.

CHINESE SOYBEANS THROUGH SUEZ CANAL UP IN 1953

The northbound movement of Chinese soybeans through the Suez Canal in calendar year 1953 totaled 352,700 short tons (11,760,000 bushels), an increase of 61 percent from the 1952 movement of 219,400 tons (7,310,000 bushels), according to information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Shipments through the Canal during the first half of 1953 reached 309,700 tons, a record annual rate, but dropped sharply to 25,400 tons in the third quarter, and to 17,600 tons in the October-December period. Sharp declines in the passage of soybeans through the Canal also occurred in the second half of both 1951 and 1952.

JAPAN'S WHALE OIL OUTPUT AT POSTWAR HIGH; SALES LARGE

Japan's production of whale oil during the recent 1953-54 Antarctic season was estimated preliminarily at about 41,400 short tons, a record postwar output, according to information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. The two participating expeditions reported an aggregate kill of 1,884.7 blue-whale units against 1,527.9 units and 37,500 tons of whale oil in the preceding season.

Of the total 1953-54 Antarctic output, about 26,660 tons will be sold abroad. The United Kingdom will buy 6,160 tons at £81 per long ton (\$202.50 per short ton) and the remaining 20,500 tons will go to Germany for £81-10-0 per long ton (\$203.75).

EGYPT'S 1953-54 COTTONSEED OUTTURN LOW

Egypt's 1953-54 production of cottonseed, the principal source of vegetable oil, is expected to be less than 600,000 short tons, reports Jay G. Diamond, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Cairo. This is about one-third below last season's second largest output on record of 927,800 tons. An estimated carry-over of nearly 120,000 tons of cottonseed from the 1952-53 crop will partly offset the low outturn from the 1953 cotton crop.

Crushings of cottonseed during 1952-53 yielded about 100,000 tons of oil while net exports of oil in calendar year 1953 amounted to 16,802 tons. For the preceding season crushings yielded about 84,000 tons of cottonseed oil and in 1952, there were net imports of 1,849 tons.

Cottonseed cake production for the season ending August 31, 1953, amounted to 560,000 tons from which exports of 35,867 tons were reported. Egypt followed a policy in 1953 of limiting imports of fats and oils to essential needs and of expanding her exports of cottonseed oil and oil-cake. In the current season, however, cottonseed oil and cake exports probably will be curtailed as a result of the low 1953-54 cottonseed outturn.

Rationed consumption of cottonseed oil in Egypt averages about 6,600 tons per month or around 80,000 tons per year. From 17,500 to 22,000 tons annually are used in soap manufacture, while 5,500 tons are hydrogenated each year for use in making shortening, which is unrationed.

Sesame seed is next to cottonseed as a source of vegetable oil and in 1953 around 15,760 tons were produced. Adjusted for seed needs, waste and net exports of 547 tons, the supply for crushing was about 13,000 tons which yielded 6,420 tons of oil. Peanut production in Egypt in 1952-53 amounted to 22,100 tons, most of which was consumed as nuts.

Imports of fats and oils into Egypt in 1953 totaled 45,400 tons and included the following commodities: tallow, for industry--23,844 tons; cottonseed oil--4,867; coconut oil--1,876; olive oil--1,486; palm oil--534; castor oil--271; linseed oil--171; acid oils for soap--4,255; and margarines--7,267 tons. Imports of fats and oils in 1952 totaled 50,732 tons. Exports of fats and oils in 1953 consisted almost entirely of 21,668 tons of cottonseed oil.

EQUADOR IMPORTING

HOG LARD

Ecuador is importing relatively substantial quantities of hog lard to meet domestic needs, according to the American Embassy, Quito. Since the domestic industry cannot supply Ecuador's total needs for edible fats, the Directorate of Supplies is importing lard for its own account to make up the deficiency.

The domestic fats and oils industry presently is protected by the Government. In March 1953, the Directorate of Supplies seized hog lard stocks, fixed price ceilings for edible fats and oils and increased the exchange tax on hog lard imports by 11 percent (see Foreign Crops and Markets of March 30, 1953; page 300). Thus, the Government reversed the position it had taken at the end of 1952 when it abruptly lifted a previous ban on hog lard imports (see Foreign Crops and Markets of December 8, 1952; page 534).

In early 1954, the Government fixed retail price ceilings on hog and vegetable lard sales throughout the Republic and also fixed minimum prices which Ecuador manufacturers must pay to growers for oil-bearing seeds.

NOTE: While official import statistics for Ecuador are not yet available for 1953, United States exports to Ecuador last year totaled 6,051 tons, against 1,559 tons in 1952. In the first two months of 1954, United States' lard exports to Ecuador were more than 600 tons.

U.S. ROUGH RICE EXPORTS INCREASE

Shipments of rough rice from the United States to Western Hemisphere destinations were 15 percent higher in 1953 than in 1952. With the exception of all shipments to Canada, and part of those to Venezuela in 1952 and 1953, all of the rough rice exported in these 3 years was for seed.

(Table on following page)

UNITED STATES: Exports of rough rice to the Western Hemisphere,
by country, annual 1951-53, January-February, 1954

Country of Destination	1951	1952	1953	January-February 1954
	<u>Bags</u>	<u>Bags</u>	<u>Bags</u>	<u>Bags</u>
<u>North America</u>				
Canada	412,127	533,914	538,597	114,022
Mexico	10	800	60	0
Guatemala	0	201	48	0
El Salvador	0	0	695	0
Nicaragua	0	273	300	0
Panama, Republic of	0	0	1,825	0
Cuba	27,726	17,032	87,140	36,601
Jamaica	0	0	60	0
Haiti	0	461	77	0
Dominican Republic	0	0	10	0
Total North America	439,863	552,681	628,812	150,623
<u>South America</u>				
Colombia	100	0	1,241	1,100
Venezuela	23,497	29,525	41,183	93,438
Ecuador	0	180	0	0
Total South America	23,597	29,705	42,424	94,538
Total Western Hemisphere	463,460	582,386	671,236	245,161

Source: Bureau of the Census.

ITALIAN RICE EXPORTS

Rice exports from Italy in 1953 were maintained at 536 million pounds. Through a number of trade arrangements with 10 or more European countries, rice has become an important part of Italian exports, particularly in the case of Germany. Exports to Japan have developed since 1951, and in 1952 amounted to almost 210 million pounds.

It is expected that Italy's rice trade with European countries will remain relatively heavy for some years to come. Exports to other areas, however, will depend on how readily Italy can adjust to a lower level in world rice prices.

With world supplies of rice curtailed for a number of years after World War II, and with prices rising until 1953, Italy was readily able to market increasing export availabilities. Total rice exports in 1948 were only 45 million pounds, but reached an all-time high in 1952 of over 600 million pounds.

ITALY: Rice exports, by country of destination,
annual 1948-53

Country of destination	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
France						
Rough (milled equivalent).....	-	-	891	2,134	2,551	1,503
Semi-milled.....	-	24,409	58,670	39,272	16,394	6,925
Milled.....	29	14,132	44,705	35,670	23,488	11,078
Total.....	29	38,541	104,266	77,076	42,433	19,506
Germany						
Semi-milled.....	-	106,888	92,326	119,815	90,285	97,158
Milled.....	29	5,564	25,043	-	-	16,584
Total.....	29	112,452	117,369	119,815	90,285	113,742
Netherlands						
Semi-milled.....	-	9,921	12,377	22,455	8,460	14,642
Total.....	-	9,921	12,377	22,455	8,460	14,642
Switzerland						
Semi-milled.....	2,866	21,246	46,762	10,408	12,814	27,290
Milled.....	-	8,113	46,416	12,498	11,201	19,749
Total.....	2,866	29,359	93,178	22,906	24,015	47,039
Belgium-Luxembourg						
Milled.....	-	-	14,898	-	15,200	21,018
Total.....	-	-	14,898	-	15,200	21,018
Sweden						
Milled.....	2,202	8,763	25,153	-	-	16,646
Total.....	2,202	8,763	25,153	-	-	16,646
United Kingdom						
Milled.....	-	-	-	41,083	-	32,647
Total.....	-	-	-	41,083	-	32,647
Greece						
Rough (milled equivalent).....	-	-	1,156	231	412	-
Milled.....	-	22,665	10,950	13,161	-	-
Total.....	-	22,665	12,106	13,392	412	-
Australia						
Milled.....	-	-	44,854	26,066	44,086	50,298
Total.....	-	-	44,854	26,066	44,086	50,298
Finland						
Semi-milled.....	-	-	3,329	7,246	7,130	6,540
Milled.....	-	11,945	-	-	-	-
Total.....	-	11,945	3,329	7,246	7,130	6,540

Continued - -

Continued - - -

ITALY: Rice exports, by country of destination,
annual 1948-1953-Cont.

Country of Destination	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<u>India</u>						
Milled	-	38,497	10,765	-	-	-
Total	-	38,497	10,765	-	-	-
<u>Japan</u>						
Milled	-	-	-	42,737	209,568	82,162
Total	-	-	-	42,737	209,568	82,162
<u>Other Asia</u>						
Semi-milled	-	-	-	-	22,037	-
Milled	38,735	81,482	-	27,530	65,833	21,572
Total	38,735	81,482	-	27,530	87,870	21,572
<u>French Africa</u>						
Rough (milled equivalent)	-	-	-	-	-	172
Milled	-	12,081	-	-	-	35,152
Total	-	12,081	-	-	-	35,324
<u>Others</u>						
Rough (milled equivalent)	747	1,588	690	213	1,250	780
Semi-milled	-	1,124	1,411	7,745	1,238	7,211
Milled	432	6,541	53,003	83,368	75,187	67,640
Total	1,179	9,253	55,104	91,326	77,675	75,631
<u>Total All Rice</u>						
Rough (milled equivalent)	747	1,588	2,737	2,578	4,213	2,455
Semi-milled	3,104	163,588	214,875	206,941	158,358	159,766
Milled	41,189	209,783	275,787	282,113	444,563	374,546
Total	45,040	374,959	493,399	491,632	607,134	536,767

Statistica del Commercio con L'estero

Production of rice in Italy has risen approximately 25 percent compared with the highest level attained in prewar years. The 1953 acreage is estimated to have reached 450,000 acres. Prewar Italy led all countries in average per-acre yields, the average from 1935 to 1939 being 4,677 pounds of paddy. In 1952 and 1953, the average yield increased to about 4,750 pounds. However, for the average of the last 2 years, Italy surrendered first place to Australia which produced about 4,875 pounds of paddy.

U.S. IMPORTS OF BROKEN
RICE SLIGHTLY HIGHER

Imports into the United States of broken rice, including brewers rice, during the first 8 months of the current fiscal year (July-February) amounted to 119,980 bags compared with 106,830 bags in the same period last year. These imports came principally from Netherlands (88,265 bags); Canada (24,588); Cuba (5,914 bags); and Belgium (1,210 bags). Only a negligible quantity of milled rice (1,320 bags) was imported in the July-February period, almost all from Italy.

SYRIA CUTS LATAKIA
TOBACCO PRODUCTION

Authorized production of Latakia tobacco in Syria was cut from 9,300 acres in 1952 to 5,700 acres in 1953 and was further reduced to 3,200 acres in 1954. Production declined from 8,293 thousand pounds in 1952 to 2,755 thousand pounds in 1953, and lowered production is expected as the result of reduced acre quotas. These reductions were requested by exporters to decrease excessive stocks. Quality of the leaf grown improved markedly in 1953 as the entire acreage was restricted to the higher altitudes where conditions favor quality. The Government allowed substantial increases in other types of tobacco used primarily in domestic demand for cigarettes.

THAILAND'S TOBACCO
IMPORTS STEADY

The Tobacco Monopoly in Thailand places its 1954 import requirements at from 6 to 7 million pounds--all of which presumably would be of United States origin. In 1953, United States exports to Thailand--all flue-cured tobacco--amounted to 6.6 million pounds, compared with 6.1 million in 1952. These export figures were about double the prewar average of 3.2 million pounds. As of January 1, 1954, Monopoly stocks of United States flue-cured tobacco amounted to 3.3 million pounds and were about equal to 6 months supply at the current rate of usings.

COTTON CONSUMPTION IN
INDIA AT RECORD LEVEL

Mill consumption of cotton in India during December 1953 (the latest month for which consumption data are available) reached a monthly high for recent years of 329,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) according to V. Krishnamurthy, American Consulate General, Bombay. Of this total 86 percent was Indian-grown cotton, which represents the highest use of domestic cotton in any month since partition. An additional amount of about 18,000 bales a month is consumed by the cottage industries.

Consumption of 1,550,000 bales in the 5-month period August-December 1953, however, was 19,000 bales ahead of the similar period in 1952. The August-December total of the current year was composed of 84 percent Indian cotton, 6 percent Egyptian, 2 percent United States, and 8 percent other foreign growths.

Latest estimates of the 1953-54 cotton crop in India indicate a production of about 3,500,000 bales, approximately 525,000 bales above the estimate for 1952-53.

INDIA: Imports of cotton by countries of origin;
average 1945-49; annual 1950-52;
August-March 1952-53 and 1953-54
(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of Origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Average: 1945-49	1950	1951	1952	August-March 1952-53	1953-54
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales
Brazil.....	7	1/	1/	1/	1/	0
Egypt.....	249	220	116	203	98	147
Kenya.....	157	177	95	193	84	46
Pakistan.....	2/ 132	4	3/	1/	1/	0
Peru.....	13	10	10	4	3	3/
Sudan.....	30	79	44	63	28	40
Tanganyika.....	25	16	11	7	6	1
United States.....	71	298	734	78	68	24
Other countries.....	16	3	3	12	4/ 8	7
Total.....	5/ 648	807	1,013	560	295	265

1/ If any, included in "Other countries." 2/ Three-year average. 3/ Less than 500 bales. 4/ Uganda 7. 5/ Figures do not add to total because of Pakistan's three-year average.

Source: Accounts Relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of India and Foreign Service Despatches.

INDIA: Exports of cotton by countries of destination;
average 1945-49; annual 1950-52;
August-March 1952-53 and 1953-54
(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country or Destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Average: 1945-49	1950	1951	1952	August-March 1952-53	1953-54
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales
Belgium.....	67	3	4	17	14	1
France.....	173	2	11	19	11	6
Germany.....	5	1	8	17	11	3
Italy.....	11	2	4	13	10	1
Netherlands.....	23	10	3	20	13	6
United Kingdom.....	75	22	6	17	12	10
United States.....	90	60	9	36	22	10
Japan.....	1/ 51	40	72	143	108	40
Australia.....	12	4	2/	2	1	1
Other Countries.....	61	2	6	8	8	0
Total.....	568	146	123	292	210	78

1/ Three-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales.

Source: Accounts Relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of India and Foreign Service Despatches.

Imports of 69,000 bales in March brought the August 1953-March 1954 total to 265,000 bales, a decline of 10 percent from imports of 295,000 bales in the same period for the previous year. Exports of cotton for the 8-month period in the current year totaled only 78,000 bales, a reduction of 210,000 bales from the corresponding period in 1952-53. Reduced exports thus far this year are attributed to the smaller export quota authorized by the Government. Trade sources believe that 40,000 to 50,000 additional bales (400 pounds gross) of Bengals could be released for export, but no additional export quotas have been promised by control authorities.

The Government of India abolished the import duty on raw cotton effective February 28, 1954, reducing costs of imported cotton to the mills by about 100 rupees per candy (2.7 cents a pound). This more than offsets recent price increases of United States cotton, but previous sizable purchases of other growths which will arrive March to May, are apparently limiting immediate demand for American cotton. Cancellation of the import duty is offset by new excise taxes on cloth produced from imported cotton. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, March 29, 1954).

Prices of cotton on the Bombay spot market have dropped from 809 rupees 1/ per candy (21.71 cents a pound) for Jarila, Fine, on January 28, 1954, to 751 rupees (20.20 cents) on April 29, 1954.

JAPAN TO LIMIT COTTON IMPORTS

Japanese Government plans for the purchase of 2,100,000 running bales of raw cotton have been announced in the foreign exchange budget for the Japanese fiscal year, April 1, 1954 - March 31, 1955, according to Robert L. Brown, American Consulate General, Kobe, Japan. This represents a decline of approximately 15 percent from the quantity of 2,461,000 bales for which foreign exchange was set aside in the previous year's budget. The plans also include channeling more cotton into manufacture of textiles for the export market, and a consequent reduction in the supply of cotton for domestic use.

Japan's cotton imports in February 1954, totaled 169,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) bringing the total for the 7-month period August 1953-February 1954 to 1,343,000 bales, slightly ahead of the previous year's comparable figure of 1,212,000. Principal sources for 1953-54 imports with comparable figures for 1952-53 in parenthesis were: United States 409,000 bales (396,000); Mexico 340,000 (339,000); Pakistan 221,000 (200,000); Brazil 93,000 (30,000); Argentina 70,000 (13,000); Egypt 56,000 (37,000); and India 40,000 (113,000).

Mill consumption of 1,300,000 bales for August-February 1953-54 compares with consumption of only 1,100,000 bales for the similar 7-month period in 1952-53. This does not include non-spinning cotton usage of about 10,000 bales per month.

1/ Excludes export tax equivalent to 10.74 U. S. cents.

Total stocks of cotton on February 28, 1954 were reported at 470,000 bales, or 2 percent less than the previous year. For a more detailed discussion of the Japanese cotton situation, see the circular entitled "The Cotton Marketing Situation in Japan", released by this office on April 30, 1954.

WORLD SUGAR PRODUCTION IN 1953-54 NEARLY 40 MILLION TONS

World production of centrifugal cane and beet sugar for 1953-54 is estimated now at almost 40.0 million short tons, raw value, which is 1 million tons over the November estimate of 39.0 million tons. The current figure is 10 percent higher than the 36.4 million tons (revised) of 1952-53, 4 percent above the 38.3 million tons of 1951-52, and 40 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average of 28.5 million tons.

The production of non-centrifugal sugar is estimated now at 7.1 million short tons, tel quel, in 1953-54, compared with 6.8 million tons (revised) in 1952-53, an average 6.0 million tons for 1945-49 and an average 5.4 million tons for 1935-39.

World production of centrifugal cane sugar equals the record 24.0 million short tons, raw value, of 1951-52 and exceeds the 1952-53 crop by more than 3 percent. Reduced output in the large producing areas of Cuba, India and Puerto Rico during the current and previous seasons have been offset by increased production in almost every other cane area in the world.

Beet sugar production reached 15.9 million short tons, raw value, during 1953-54, 900 thousand tons higher than the fall estimate for the season, 20 percent higher than the 1952-53 estimate of 13.2 million tons (revised) and 8 percent above the previous record of 14.7 million tons during 1950-51. While increased output is reported from every beet sugar producing area of the world, the bulk of such increases is centered in Western Europe where excellent weather finally settled on beet acreage expanded during the postwar period.

North and Central America: Production of centrifugal cane and beet sugar in North and Central America is estimated now at 13.3 million short tons, raw value, during 1953-54, about 2 percent more than the 13.0 million tons of 1952-53 and 12 percent less than the 15.0 million tons of 1951-52.

Cuba has restricted its crop to 5.4 million tons since the fall estimates to conform with the 15 percent export quota decrease instituted in early 1954 under the new International Sugar Agreement. This further restriction of Cuban output has been offset largely by upward revisions for production in most of the other areas of North and Central America. The most important increases in production from the 1952-53 season are noted for the continental cane and beet areas of the United States, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and the British West Indies.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1950-53 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Averages		1950	1951	1952	1953 3/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA (cane and beet)						
British Honduras.....	1 :	1 :	2 :	3 :	4 :	4
Canada (beet).....	76 :	99 :	160 :	133 :	163 :	131
Costa Rica.....	9 :	20 :	25 :	33 :	34 :	35
El Salvador.....	17 :	27 :	31 :	32 :	35 :	30
Guatemala.....	19 :	33 :	29 :	34 :	40 :	40
Honduras.....	2 :	2 :	5 :	7 :	10 :	11
Mexico.....	353 :	636 :	778 :	807 :	911 :	964
Nicaragua.....	9 :	21 :	30 :	34 :	37 :	40
Panama.....	5 :	11 :	18 :	21 :	20 :	20
United States (beet).....	1,517 :	1,515 :	2,012 :	1,549 :	1,508 :	1,876
United States (cane).....	474 :	455 :	564 :	419 :	605 :	625
Hawaii.....	980 :	861 :	996 :	1,020 :	1,099 :	1,092
Puerto Rico.....	974 :	1,134 :	1,228 :	1,360 :4/	1,171 :4/	1,180
Virgin Islands of the U.S. ...	6 :	6 :	7 :	12 :	13 :	14
Antigua.....	22 :	25 :	21 :	38 :	36 :	17
Barbados.....	114 :	121 :	184 :	176 :	169 :	190
Cuba.....	3,183 :	5,897 :	6,349 :	7,964 :4/	5,687 :4/	5,395
Dominican Republic.....	491 :	509 :	582 :	648 :	661 :	735
Grenada.....	1 :	1 :	3 :	2 :	1 :	1
Guadeloupe.....	60 :	48 :	82 :	106 :	96 :	99
Haiti.....	44 :	49 :	64 :	64 :	63 :	54
Jamaica.....	119 :	235 :	300 :	299 :	370 :	409
Martinique.....	64 :	29 :	55 :	42 :	60 :	72
St. Kitts.....	36 :	40 :	50 :	57 :	58 :	56
St. Lucia and St. Vincent.....	11 :	11 :	14 :	15 :	16 :	13
Trinidad and Tobago.....	149 :	144 :	158 :	154 :	171 :	186
Total North America.....	8,736 :	11,930 :	13,747 :	15,029 :	13,038 :	13,289
WESTERN EUROPE (beet)						
Austria.....	196 :	46 :5/	136 :	175 :	146 :	197
Belgium.....	259 :	250 :	491 :	293 :	356 :	451
Denmark.....	260 :	266 :	410 :	394 :	285 :	416
Finland.....	13 :	14 :	25 :	23 :	22 :	40
France.....	1,078 :	823 :	1,584 :	1,396 :	1,100 :	1,804
Germany, Western.....	610 :	524 :	1,110 :	1,168 :	988 :	1,580
Ireland.....	89 :	95 :	108 :	100 :	102 :	144
Italy.....	414 :	331 :	699 :	825 :	819 :	841
Netherlands.....	261 :	270 :	451 :	386 :	465 :	478
Spain 6/.....	202 :	200 :	219 :	366 :	669 :	359
Sweden.....	340 :	311 :7/	343 :7/	323 :7/	267 :7/	389
Switzerland.....	13 :	28 :	31 :	33 :	32 :	36
United Kingdom.....	514 :	613 :	815 :	753 :	686 :	867
Yugoslavia.....	103 :	127 :	104 :	257 :	61 :	210
Total Western Europe.....	4,352 :	3,898 :	6,526 :	6,492 :	5,998 :	7,812
Total Eastern Europe.....	2,925 :	2,055 :	3,330 :	3,070 :	2,700 :	3,010
Total Europe.....	7,277 :	5,953 :	9,856 :	9,562 :	8,698 :	10,822
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)						
(beet).....	2,761 :	1,643 :	2,400 :	2,700 :	2,500 :	2,700

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1950-53 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Averages		1950	1951	1952	1953 3/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
ASIA (beet and cane)						
Afghanistan (beet).....	-	-	5	5	4	6
Burma.....	27	10	5	17	25	25
China incl. Manchuria 8/.....	87	77	51	72	83	102
India.....	1,303	1,319	1,469	1,901	1,700	1,600
Indochina.....	77	11	7	7	7	7
Indonesia.....	1,207	102	386	472	505	660
Iran (beet).....	23	41	67	85	87	84
Japan (beet).....	46	11	23	31	38	45
Pakistan.....	33	33	52	83	84	84
Philippines, Republic of.....	1,058	382	935	1,076	1,134	1,368
Ryukyu Islands.....	32	0	0	0	0	0
Syria (beet).....	0	0	1	2	7	12
Taiwan (Formosa).....	1,240	346	412	598	983	710
Thailand.....	21	28	35	37	40	40
Turkey (beet).....	76	131	168	228	200	213
Total Asia (excl. U.S.S.R.).....	5,230	2,491	3,616	4,614	4,897	4,956
SOUTH AMERICA (cane)						
Argentina.....	510	654	716	760	654	829
Bolivia.....	1	2	4	3	7	6
Brazil.....	830	1,418	1,737	1,860	2,151	2,345
British Guiana.....	210	198	243	272	269	283
Colombia.....	51	135	215	178	240	255
Ecuador.....	24	44	61	53	66	65
Paraguay.....	6	16	26	33	25	16
Peru.....	444	483	518	526	669	645
Surinam.....	15	5	4	7	8	8
Uruguay 8/.....	2	3	10	14	15	26
Venezuela.....	22	41	54	70	80	93
Total South America.....	2,315	2,999	3,588	3,776	4,184	4,571
AFRICA (cane)						
Angola.....	37	50	57	56	55	57
Belgian Congo.....	14	17	15	17	18	18
British East Africa.....	63	88	88	88	92	67
Egypt.....	166	211	215	208	247	272
Madagascar.....	14	14	15	15	17	19
Madeira and Azore Islands.....	9	9	10	11	11	11
Mauritius.....	320	351	505	535	517	598
Mozambique.....	81	86	101	92	99	102
Reunion.....	91	81	117	142	174	189
Union of South Africa.....	498	542	686	532	670	725
Total Africa.....	1,293	1,449	1,809	1,696	1,900	2,058
OCEANIA (cane)						
Australia.....	894	830	1,032	809	1,027	1,364
Fiji.....	150	131	134	146	183	192
Japanese Mandated Islands.....	69	0	0	0	0	0
Total Oceania.....	1,113	961	1,166	955	1,210	1,556
World total (cane).....	16,753	18,038	21,477	24,014	23,203	24,013
World total (beet).....	11,772	9,388	14,705	14,318	13,224	15,929
WORLD TOTAL (beet and cane).....	28,525	27,426	36,182	38,332	36,427	39,952

1/ Centrifugal sugar, as distinguished from non-centrifugal, includes cane and beet sugar produced by the centrifugal process, which is the principal kind moving in international trade. 2/ Years shown are for crop years; generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months of the year shown or in the early months of the following year, except in certain cane-sugar-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, such as Australia, Argentina, Mauritius, Union of South Africa etc. where the season begins in May or June of the year shown. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Restricted crops. 5/ Includes a small amount of sugar from German beets processed in Austria. 6/ Includes a small amount of cane. 7/ Includes sugar from Danish beets processed in Sweden. 8/ Includes both cane and beet sugar.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

NON-CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR: Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1950-53 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Averages		1950	1951	1952	1953 3/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA						
Costa Rica.....	15	36	29	33	33	33
El Salvador.....	17	27	7	10	10	10
Guatemala.....	31	35	28	30	51	53
Honduras.....	20	23	23	23	23	23
Mexico.....	83	174	170	165	132	132
Nicaragua.....	7	14	15	25	25	25
Panama.....	2	9	11	11	11	11
Total North America.....	175	318	283	297	285	287
ASIA						
Burma.....	86	74	75	84	90	90
China.....	350	307	203	287	330	406
India.....	2,954	3,308	3,508	3,675	3,700	3,700
Indonesia.....	81	40	40	115	165	235
Japan.....	4	14	14	14	14	14
Pakistan.....	710	550	710	656	840	940
Philippines, Republic of.....	63	44	40	50	50	50
Ryukyu Islands.....	90	4	18	19	20	20
Taiwan (Formosa).....	32	6	8	12	21	13
Thailand.....	17	22	21	21	21	21
Total Asia.....	4,387	4,369	4,637	4,933	5,251	5,489
SOUTH AMERICA						
Brazil.....	370	395	397	300	300	330
Colombia.....	420	755	816	838	838	800
Ecuador.....	15	18	28	25	32	32
Peru.....	9	25	29	26	22	22
Venezuela.....	60	110	130	110	110	110
Total South America.....	874	1,303	1,400	1,299	1,302	1,294
WORLD TOTAL.....	5,436	5,990	6,320	6,529	6,838	7,070

1/ Non-centrifugal sugar includes all types of sugar produced by other than the centrifugal process which is largely for consumption in the relatively few areas where produced. The estimates include such kinds known as piloncillo, panelo, papelon, chancaca, rapadura, jaggery, gur, muscovado, panocha, etc.

2/ Years shown are for crop years; generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months of the year shown or in the early months of the following year except in certain cane-sugar-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, where the season begins in May or June of the year shown. 3/ Preliminary.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

Western Europe: The centrifugal sugar production of Western Europe is now estimated at 7.8 million tons for 1953-54, about 30 percent above the 6.0 million tons of last season and 20 percent above the 6.5 million tons of 1951-52.

Total beet acreage of Western Europe during the postwar period increased by 50 percent through 1952-53. Only adverse weather and disease factors during 1951-52 and 1952-53 prevented record crops for those seasons. During the current season, acreage declined in most areas of Western Europe. Yet, such excellent conditions have prevailed this past year that a record crop, more than double that of the early postwar (1945-49) period, was assured. The most striking increases are noted for sugar production in France and West Germany. In the former country, beets, which formerly moved into alcohol plants, are moving now to sugar factories, and a surplus of sugar is expected for the first time. West German sugar production increased this season by 60 percent with favorable weather conditions on increased acreage. Other important production increases are noted for Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.

Eastern Europe: Centrifugal sugar production for Eastern Europe during 1953-54 is estimated at about 3.0 million short tons, raw value, compared with 2.7 million tons (revised) for 1952-53 and 3.1 million tons for 1951-52. Increased production in most areas of Eastern Europe more than offset the continued decreases for Eastern Germany.

The revision of 1953-54 output for the U.S.S.R. to 2.7 million tons is based on reports indicating improved weather conditions during the current season.

Asia: The estimate of 1953-54 centrifugal sugar production for Asia remains at almost 5.0 million short tons, raw value, compared with 4.9 million tons in 1952-53 and 4.6 million tons in 1951-52. Because of its reduced output of centrifugal sugar, India will need to import sugar again this year to supplement domestic production and to hold down prices in that country. Reduced output in Formosa resulted primarily from a damaging typhoon in November and continued adverse weather during December and January. Every other producing area of Asia maintained or increased production from last season's levels.

South America: Centrifugal sugar production in South America advanced 9 percent to 4.6 million tons in 1953-54, or more than double prewar output. Argentina, Brazil, British Guiana, Colombia, Uruguay and Venezuela produced record crops. Peru and Ecuador held production near last season's record levels and only Paraguay reported a serious drop in production during the current season.

Africa: The 1953-54 centrifugal sugar production of Africa is estimated now at almost 2.1 million short tons, raw value, or 8 percent above last season's output of 1.9 million tons and 21 percent above the 1.7 million tons of 1951-52. Only British East Africa reported a decline in production this season. The four largest producers, the Union of South Africa, Mauritius, Egypt and Reunion, reported record crops for 1953-54.

Oceania: The 1953-54 record crops of Australia and Fiji totalled almost 1.6 million short tons, raw value, or one-third more than the 1.2 million tons of 1952-53. The 1953 season was an unusually favorable one for Australia. On acreage about 23 percent larger than in 1952, about one-third more raw sugar was produced. Prospects are also good for the new crop beginning June 1954 and an early forecast places the 1954-55 crop figure about 7 percent above the current season's production. This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

MEXICO A MAJOR MARKET FOR U.S. EGGS AND BABY CHICKS

Mexico in 1953 was the United States poultry industry's principal foreign market for eggs in the shell, purchasing 18 million dozen produced primarily by Midwest poultry flocks. The two points of export shipment in Texas, Laredo and El Paso, handled 13 million dozen in 1953 with Mexico the major receiver. The movement through these two points for the first two months of 1954 totaled 1,900,000 dozen compared to 1,110,000 dozen for the same period in 1953.

Chick breeders in the United States in 1953 sold 3 million baby chicks to Mexico and hope to sell more in 1954. The opportunity for expanding the trade primarily affects the members of the western and midwestern poultry and hatching associations as well as exporters in Texas, California and Louisiana. The export shipment points of these 3 states handled well over 2 million baby chicks, mainly going to Mexico. Movement through these points for the first two months of 1954 was 340,000 baby chicks compared to 555,000 for the first two months of 1953.

AUSTRIA TO INCREASE LARD, EDIBLE OIL IMPORTS IN 1954

Austria's requirements for imported lard in 1954 are officially estimated at 22,000 short tons while import requirements of edible vegetable oils will approximate 32,500 tons, reports Einar Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Vienna.

In the first quarter of this year 8,600 tons of lard were purchased. According to the Austrian foreign exchange program, the equivalent of U.S. \$1,200,000 were earmarked for lard exports, from EPU (European Payments Union) countries and the sterling area, to be made during the April-June quarter of calendar year 1954. This amount will be sufficient to procure approximately 3,300 tons of lard, depending on the course of the world market prices. No definite plans have been made as yet for the third and fourth quarters.

About 35,300 tons of edible vegetable fats and oils will be consumed by the Austrian non-farm population this year. Marketings of rapeseed from the 1954 crop, barring unpredictable developments, are not expected to be much in excess of 6,900 tons, which is equivalent to about 2,800 tons of edible oil. Thus, import requirements will be about 32,500 tons. The official foreign exchange allocation program for the April-June quarter of 1954 provides for the equivalent of U.S. \$2,300,000 to be expended for purchases of oilseed and edible vegetable fats and oils, to be made in ECU countries and the sterling area during the 3-month period indicated. It is estimated that during the year Austria will spend close to 10 million dollars for imports of these commodities.

Indigenous production of rapeseed oil accounted for only a small part of the supplies needed to cover Austrian requirements in 1953, although acreage was about 10 percent higher than in 1952 due to the favorable price. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, November 23, 1953). The crop yielded about 4,100 tons of oil. Pumpkin seed yielded an estimated 900 tons of oil making a total edible vegetable oil output of 5,000 tons, or roughly the same as in the previous year. Pumpkin oil is consumed largely, in unrefined condition, in producer households. Other oil crops such as poppy, sunflower, and safflower are not important sources of edible oil in Austria.

Austrian butter production has been increasing in recent years and output in 1953 was 33,580 tons compared with 32,560 tons in 1952. Lard production also has been increasing in postwar years. An estimated 57,320 tons of rendered lard was produced in 1953.

Fat rationing, in effect since 1939, was abolished on July 1, 1953. The lifting of restrictions on consumption coincided with the production of a new type of high quality margarine, the so-called milk margarine, and as a result there has been a marked increase in consumption of margarine and a decrease in consumption of compound lard.

Average per-capita consumption of all fats in 1953 was about 41.2 pounds, with rural consumption of fats well above and urban consumption somewhat below this average.

Stocks of oilseeds and raw vegetable fats and oils were greatly increased in 1952 because low world prices induced processors to add to their stock; and in 1953 when prices became stabilized these stocks were drawn upon. Consequently, smaller imports were needed. Commercial stocks of vegetable fats and oils as of January 1, 1954, were 5,000 tons against 7,755 tons at the beginning of 1953. Stocks of imported lard, reported at 4,210 tons on January 1, 1953, increased slightly to 4,320 tons on January 1 of this year.

Imports of oilseeds for the manufacture of edible and non-edible oils at 5,622 tons were only 16 percent of the volume imported in 1952. Weighted average prices of these imports were 9 percent above the 1952 level. Imports of edible oils at 3,226 tons in 1953 were even lower than 1952 imports of 4,095 tons. Prices of these oils were about 12 percent above the 1952 average.

In prewar years, imports needed to supplement indigenous production of lard were made primarily in the form of fat hogs from Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania and Poland. Such imports from these sources have not been available in postwar years and the supplementary supplies needed have been imported in the form of lard, mostly from the United States. Of the 14,910 tons of rendered lard imported in 1953, 10,774 tons came from the United States. Another 5,806 tons of United States lard marketed in 1953 came from special holdings not previously included under commercial stocks and imports.

NEW ZEALAND'S TALLOW EXPORTS DOWN IN 1953; FLAXSEED PRODUCTION LOW

New Zealand exports of animal fats, mainly edible and inedible tallow, totaled 45,997 short tons in 1953, a decrease of 18 percent from the volume exported in 1952, reports Philip C. Habib, Economic Officer, American Embassy, Wellington. Exports were less in 1953 due to a lighter livestock slaughter in the 1952-53 meat production year. With a heavier kill in the 1953-54 year, exports should increase.

The 1953 exportation of animal fats included 363 tons of lard, 697 tons of stearine, 13,884 tons of edible tallow, 402 tons of hog grease, and 30,651 tons of inedible tallow. The principal destination was, and probably will continue to be, the United Kingdom.

Production of tallow and lard in New Zealand in 1953-54 is unofficially forecast at about 60,000 and 1,600 tons, respectively, against 54,500 and 1,500 tons in 1952-53. Roughly one-third of New Zealand's production is used locally for scap and cooking fat manufacture. The remainder is exported at prices based on the London market. According to the local industry prices responded immediately to the upward movement in London around November 1953, and at the present time are well above levels a year ago. As a by-product of the large New Zealand meat industry the marketing of animal fats is a relatively automatic procedure with local packers linked direct with London buyers.

Flaxseed is the only oilseed grown in New Zealand of any importance. Unofficial estimates place the 1953-54 crop around 92,000 bushels, against 410,000 bushels in the preceding season. The small 1953-54 crop resulted from a sharp reduction in the acreage planted to flaxseed. It is expected that the yield of linseed oil will be about 790 tons. A substantial share of the 1952-53 flaxseed was exported but official data are not yet available.

New Zealand imports linseed oil which is blended with local oil to keep the cost to the consumer down. Following the large 1952-53 linseed oil output of roughly 1,600 tons, imports of oil in 1953 were smaller than usual. It is expected that 1954 imports may approximate 1,600 tons. Principal sources of supply are India and the United Kingdom.

The current wholesale price in New Zealand for raw linseed oil is £0-19-1 per gallon (about 30 cents per pound). This is well above landed prices for imported oil, but the Government protects the local industry in order to maintain an internal supply. New Zealand has a plant capacity to produce some 5,600 tons of linseed oil per year, but this is not likely to be used in the near future.